



STATE OF NEVADA

Department of Conservation & Natural Resources

DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Kenny C. Guinn, Governor

Allen Biaggi, Director

Leo M. Drozdoff, P.E., Administrator

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION PUBLIC NOTICE

March 20, 2006

The Administrator, Division of Environmental Protection, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Carson City, Nevada is issuing the following Notice of Proposed Action under the authority of the Nevada Revised Statutes, the Nevada Administrative Code, and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The Administrator has received a renewal with modification application for an Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit, which has been drafted for public comment. Permit #UNEV40019 has been applied for by the following applicant:

ORNI 3, LLC & Western States Geothermal Company
980 Greg Street
Sparks, NV 89431

The applicant has submitted a renewal with modification application for UIC permit #UNEV40019 to dispose of geothermal fluids produced from Desert Peak Geothermal Plants Number 1 and 2 into two existing injection wells, wells 21-2 and 22-22, located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 21 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22, respectively, T.22N, R.27E, MDB&M, Churchill County, Nevada. The injection wells will be used to reinject geothermal fluids into the same geothermal reservoir from whence they were produced, at a depth of between 2030 and 6730 feet below ground surface. Chemical analyses indicate that the injectate water created by the geothermal process is similar in quality to the receiving water, which is the subsurface geothermal reservoir. Monitoring will be conducted to ensure that injected fluids do not compromise the quality of the receiving water.

Cooling tower fluids will be disposed of by surface discharge to an infiltration basin located in Section 28, T22N, R27E, MDB&M and surface discharge to a concrete evaporation basin located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 21, T22N, R27E, MDB&M, Churchill County, Nevada. Chemical analyses indicate that cooling tower fluids are of greater quality than the receiving water, which is the shallow aquifer. Monitoring will be conducted to ensure that discharged fluids do not compromise the receiving water quality.

On the basis of preliminary review of the requirements of the Nevada Revised Statutes, the Nevada Administrative Code, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and implementing regulations, the Administrator proposes to issue UIC permit #UNEV40019 as stated above.

Persons wishing to comment on or object to the proposed determinations by the Administrator regarding permit issuance or to request a hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, Water

Pollution Control, should submit their comments or request in writing by April 24, 2006 either in person or by mail to:

Attn: Birgit Widegren
Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Water Pollution Control
901 South Stewart Street; Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701-5249
bwidegren@ndep.nv.gov

All comments or objections received within thirty days of newspaper publication will be considered in the formulation of final determinations regarding the application. If written comments indicate a significant degree of public interest in the proposed permit, the Administrator shall hold a public hearing. A public notice of such hearing will be issued not less than thirty days prior to the hearing date.

The application, draft permit, comments received, and other information are on file and may be copied at the office of the Division of Environmental Protection, or copies may be obtained by writing to the above address or by calling Birgit Widegren of the Bureau of Water Pollution Control at (775) 687-9315.

Please bring the foregoing notice to the attention of all persons whom you know would be interested in this matter.